

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (previously presented) An electrically driven turf maintenance machine, which comprises:

- (a) a frame;
- (b) a plurality of ground engaging wheels attached to the frame for supporting the frame for movement over the ground;
- (c) at least one electric motor operatively connected to at least one of the ground engaging wheels for propelling the wheel to provide traction for the frame;
- (d) at least one operating unit carried on the frame for performing a turf maintenance operation;
- (e) at least one electric motor operatively connected to at least one operating unit for powering the operating unit; and
- (f) an electric drive system carried on the frame for providing electric power to the electric motors, the electric drive system comprising:
 - (i) an internal combustion engine;
 - (ii) an electric power generating device mechanically driven by the engine for supplying electric power;
 - (iii) a battery power source for supplying electric power; and
 - (iv) an electric power supply circuit for connecting the electric motors to the electric power gen-

erating device and to the battery power source to allow electric power to be supplied to the electric motors at least from either the electric power generating device or from both the electric power generating device and battery power source.

2. (original) A machine as recited in claim 1, further including a switch for shutting off the internal combustion engine to thereby disable the electric power generating device, thereby making the battery power source the sole source of electric power for the electric motors.

3. (original) A machine as recited in claim 2, whereby the switch is selectively operable under the control of a user of the machine to allow the user to select when the battery power source shall serve as the sole source of electric power for the electric motors.

4. (original) A machine as recited in claim 2, further including means for sensing a state of charge of the battery power source, and means for reporting the state of charge of the battery power source to a user of the machine.

5. (original) A machine as recited in claim 4, further including a display for indicating to a user of the machine when the state of charge of the battery power source is below a predetermined minimum level.

6. (original) A machine as recited in claim 5, further including means for preventing operation from only the battery power source when the state of charge of the battery power source is below the predetermined minimum level.

7. (original) A machine as recited in claim 1, wherein the electric power generating device is connected to the bat-

tery power source to recharge the battery power source during operation of the internal combustion engine.

8. (original) A machine as recited in claim 1, wherein the electric power generating device comprises an alternator.

9. (original) A machine as recited in claim 8, further including a controller for controlling the application of electric power to the electric motors, and wherein the controller is further connected to the magnetic field windings of the alternator to control the operation of the alternator.

10. (original) A machine as recited in claim 1, wherein two of the wheels on the frame are individually driven by separate electric motors each of which are connected to the electric drive system.

11. (original) A machine as recited in claim 10, wherein the machine has a steering wheel to allow the machine to be turned, and further including a controller for controlling the supply of electric power from the electric drive system to the electric motors, wherein the controller has means responsive to a turn effected by movement of the steering wheel to vary the power supplied to the individual electric motors to effect a differential action during the turn.

12. (original) A machine as recited in claim 1, wherein the machine comprises a grass mowing machine, and wherein the operating unit comprises a grass cutting unit.

13. (original) A machine as recited in claim 12, wherein the grass mowing machine comprises a riding lawn mower.

14 - 22 (canceled)

23. (previously presented) A turf maintenance machine, which comprises:

- (a) a movable frame;
- (b) at least one operating unit carried on the frame for performing a turf maintenance operation;
- (c) a traction system for propelling the frame; and
- (d) a drive system carried on the frame for powering the traction system, the drive system including:
 - (i) an internal combustion engine that powers the traction system at least partially at times; and
 - (ii) a battery power source that also powers the traction system at least partially at times.

24. (previously presented) A turf maintenance machine, which comprises:

- (a) a movable frame;
- (b) at least one operating unit carried on the frame for performing a turf maintenance operation;
- (c) a traction system for propelling the frame; and
- (d) a drive system carried on the frame for powering the traction system, the drive system including:
 - (i) an internal combustion engine that powers the traction system at least partially during a first mode of operation;
 - (ii) a battery power source that powers the traction system entirely during a second all battery mode of operation; and
 - (iii) a switch for selecting between the first and second modes of operation.

25. (previously presented) A machine as recited in claim 24, wherein the switch is selectively actuatable by an operator of the machine.

26. (new) A self-propelled mower comprising:
a frame;
a plurality of ground engaging wheels supporting said frame;
an internal combustion engine outputting mechanical motion;
an electrical generator operably coupled with said internal combustion engine, said electrical generator outputting electrical energy in response to said mechanical motion;
an electric wheel motor operably coupled between said electrical generator and atengaging wheels for driving said at least one ground engaging wheel in response to said electrical energy; and
a cutting device supported by said frame, said cutting device being operably driven by said internal combustion engine.

27. (new) The self-propelled mower of claim 26, further comprising:
a gear reduction device operably coupled between said electric wheel motor and said at least one ground engaging wheel.

28. (new) A self-propelled mower comprising:
a frame;
a plurality of ground engaging wheels supporting said frame;
an internal combustan electrical generator operably coupled with said internal combustion engine, said electrical

generator outputting electrical energy in response to said mechanical motion;

an electric wheel motor operably coupled between said electrical generator and at least one of said plurality of ground engaging wheels for driving said at least one ground engaging wheel in response to said electrical energy;

a cutting device supported by said frame, said cutting device being operably driven by said internal combustion engine; and

a main controller operably coupled to at least one of said cutting device and said electric wheel motor.

29. (new) The self-propelled mower of claim 28, further comprising:

a gear reduction device operably coupled between said electric wheel motor and said at least one ground engaging wheel.